

ELERSLIE FARM
Chestertown, Maryland
(house-ca 1875)
(outbuilding early 19th)

Elerslie Farm includes two interesting structures, its large main house and one small post and plank outbuilding. The house is frame two-and-one-half stories tall; it has a true cross gable roof plan, although the rear gable is smaller. The dwelling is three bays wide and two bays (two rooms) deep; it has a central entrance and stair hall. The most remarkable feature of the interior is the beautiful stair which rises to the second floor. It is detailed similarly to the stair at Radcliffe Cross (K-79) with foliated step brackets, turned balusters, and molded handrail, but its unusual newel post has a carved rope design in each face of its octagonal shaft. This newell post was advertised by the Baltimore Millwork Company, George O. Stevens in 1879.

The outbuilding has mortice and tenoned rafters and a board and batten door with early hardware. It was used as a smoke house.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Elerslie Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

East side Route 213 north, one mile
north of Hopewell Corner.

1st

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Kent

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Howard S. Leverton, Jr.

Telephone #: 301-778-2035

STREET & NUMBER

Elerslie Farm

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

☒ VICINITY OFSTATE, zip code
Maryland 21620**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Kent County Court House

Liber #: WHG 68

Folio #: 527

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

K-393

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Elerslie Farm includes two interesting structures, its large main house and one small post and plank outbuilding.

The house is frame two-and-one-half stories tall; it has a true cross gable roof plan, although the rear gable is smaller. The dwelling is three bays wide and two bays (two rooms) deep; it has a central entrance and stair hall.

The building is covered by a sweeping, generous gable roof with undecorated overhanging eaves. The cross gable is one bay wide and reaches the ridge of the roof. In the front, it has a Gothic shaped window with diamond shaped panes in the upper sash; in the rear, the entire gable is filled with a triangular window with diamond-shaped panes.

Flanking the cross gable are two little triangular dormers with tudor-arches 2 over 2 sash windows, and faces covered with wooden shingles with round butt ends.

Chimney stacks are located in the center of each pair of rooms on the interior walls but set behind the roof ridge. The chimneys are brick and have corbelled caps.

Windows are evenly spaced in each bay. They have 4 over 4 sash, plain narrow trim, plain sills, and modern louvered shutters. In the attic gable are windows with 6 over 6 sash. The central window, second floor, front facade, has been altered and the main entry changed from a pair of double doors with a transom light and side lights to a single door. The original entry remains on the facade. It is unusually elaborate for a rear entry and has transom lights and side lights, a carved transom bar, and a four-panel door. The original front porch has also been demolished and replaced by a plain modern porch. There is a new rear screened porch and a two-story kitchen wing located on the north side of the rear wall.

The most remarkable feature of the interior is the beautiful stair which rises

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES house ca 1875

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

outhuilding early 19th

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Elerslie Farm House is an unusually large and generously proportioned late Victorian building constructed in a true cross-gable form that is quite unusual here. Generally houses of this period in the Upper Eastern Shore have front gables only which generally do not reach the roof-peak and assymmetrically placed rear wings. Usually too they are essentially one-room deep " I " houses. This structure is two rooms deep with interior chimneys and a generosity of scale and proportion rare in farm buildings of this period.

The smoke-house represents the end of a long tradition in Tidewater construction practices. It was in all likelihood originally built with posts set in the ground as were many 17th and very early 18th century buildings. Like some of its predecessors the posts of this little structure rotted at ground level, were cut off, and set on masonry. Very few post and plank structures--even of the 19th century--have survived and this one is worthy of careful preservation.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Lake, Griffing, & Stevenson. An Illustrated Atlas of Kent and Queen Anne (sic) Counties, Md. (Philadelphia: 27 South Sixth Street, 1877.)

Kent County Land Records, Kent County Court House, Chestertown, Maryland

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Marsha L. Fritz, Survey Consultant

ORGANIZATION

Kent County Planning Commission

DATE

778-4600, ext.67

STREET & NUMBER

Court House

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Chestertown, Maryland

STATE

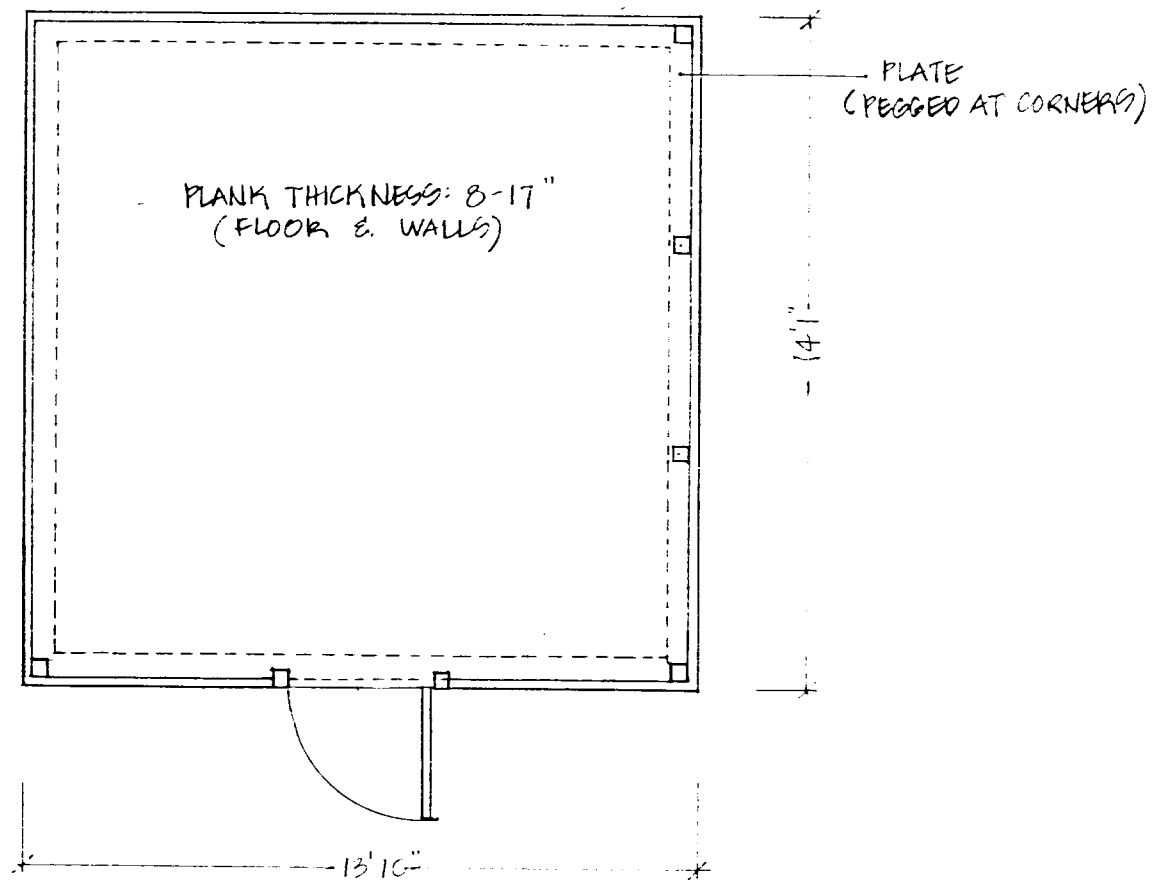
The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

to the second floor in a generous hall. The stair is detailed similarly to the stair at Radcliffe Cross (K-79) with foliated step bracketts, turned balusters, and molded handrail, but its unusual newel post has a carved rope design in each face of its octagonal shaft. This newel post was advertised by the Baltimore millwork company, George O. Stevens in 1879. Interior window and door trim is made up of a fascia broken with a Grecian ogee and bevel molding and an inside bead and is the most common trim of the period. Flooring is yellow pine covered with recent oak flooring. Doors have four-panels with bold Grecian ogee and bevel moldings and are identical to the doors used on the Dulin House (K-401.)

The outbuilding is a post and plank structure shown in plan below. Probably the posts were originally set in the ground, but rotted and were cut off and set on concrete blocks. The building has a gable roof with four pairs of mortice and tenoned and pegged rafters. There are tapered verge boards with curved ends at the gables. Planks, 1 3/4" thick and ranging in size from 8" to 17", were used vertically on the exterior walls and to the roof. The door is board and batten and is hung on penny-end straphinges. The floor is also plank. All members are circular sawn. Nails date from several periods but include rose-head nails. The building has lapped random-width weatherboarding in the gables, a wood shingle roof, and imitation-wood asphalt shingles covering the walls. The little building was used as a smokehouse.



← N

ELERSLIE FARM OUTBUILDING (K-393) CHESTERTOWN, MD.
SCALE: $\frac{1}{4}" = 10'$

K-393

S
ARMY

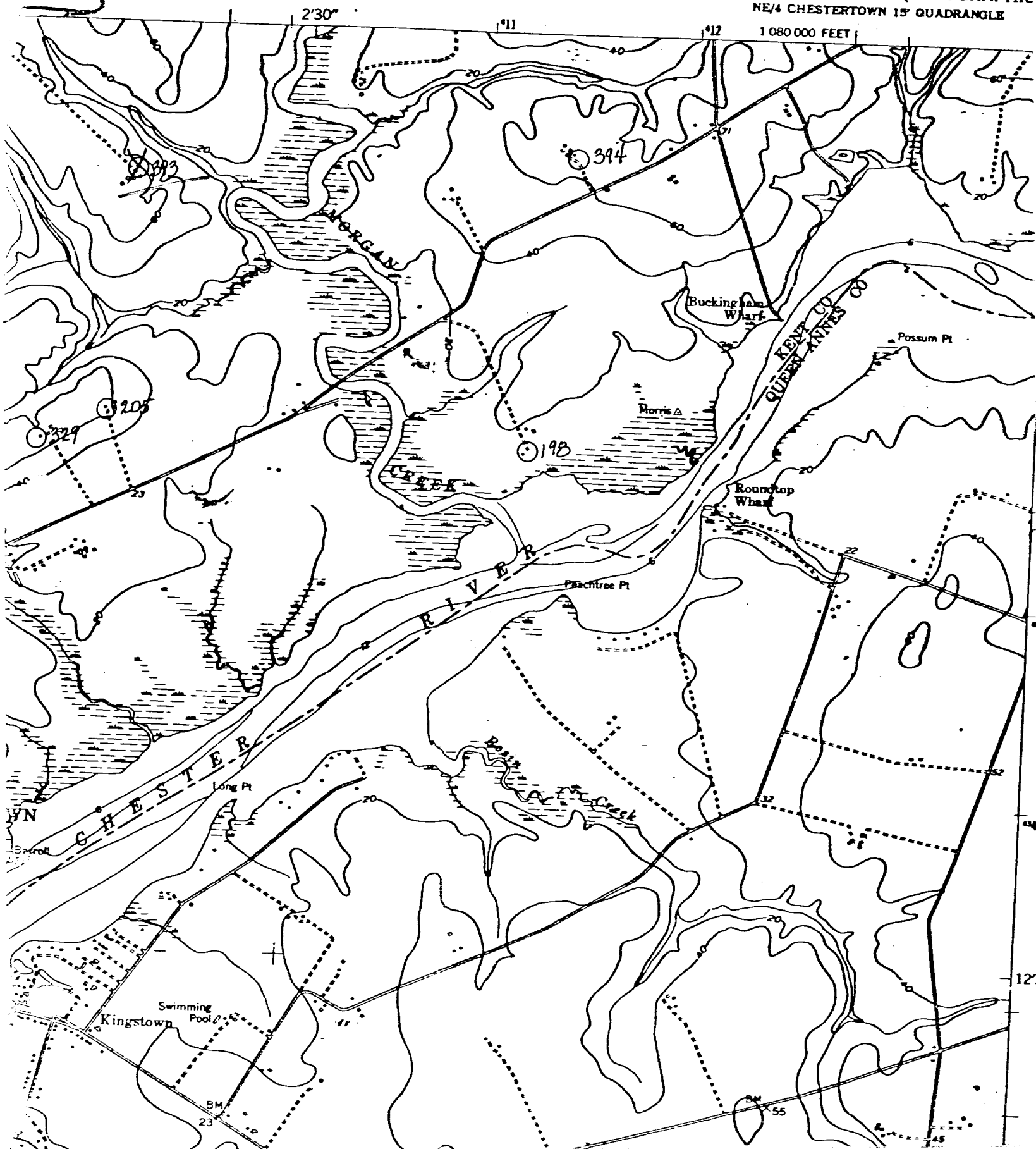
CHESTERTOWN QUADRANGLE
MARYLAND
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)
NE/4 CHESTERTOWN 15' QUADRANGLE

2'30"

11

12

1 080 000 FEET





K-393

Elerslie Farm

View to northeast

Chestertown

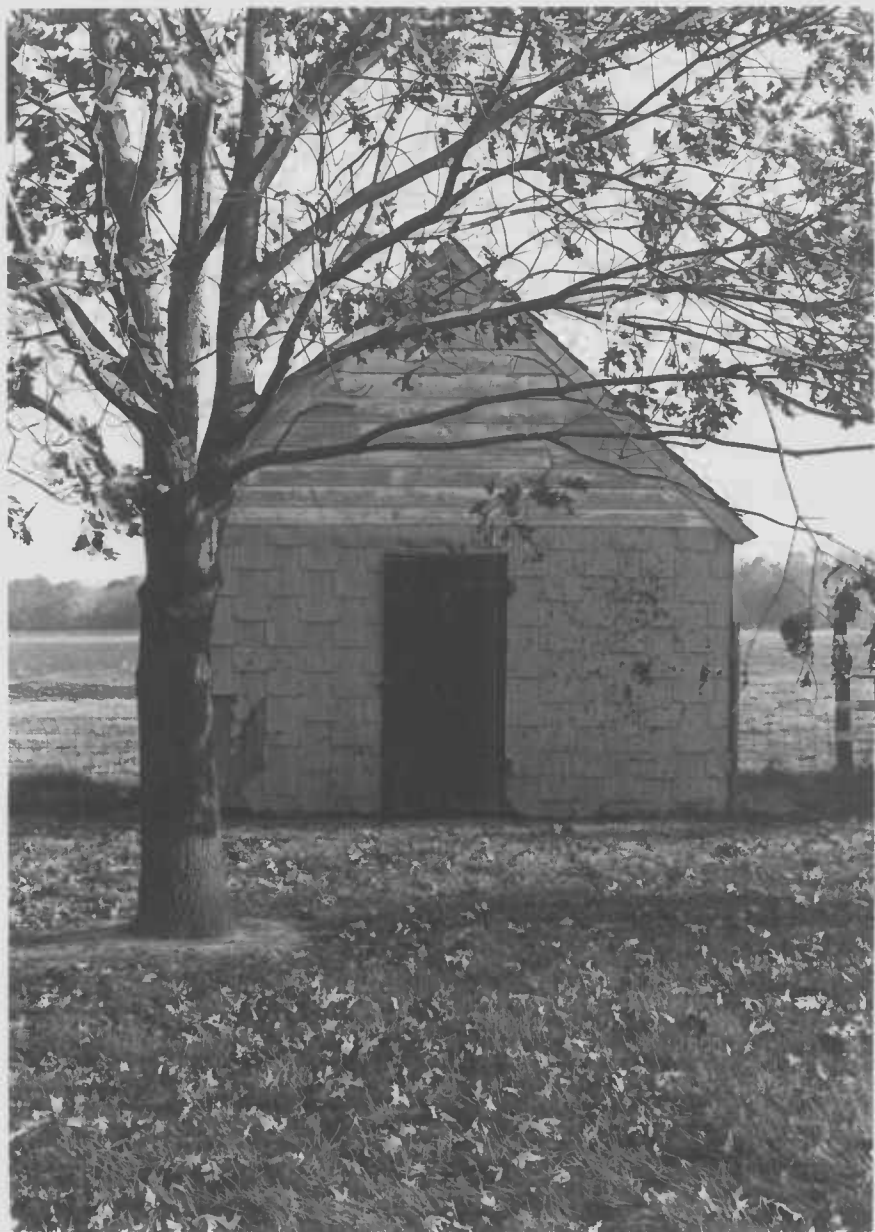
Kent County

M.L. Fritz

3/1980

J. Tyler Campbell
FREE-LANCE PHOTOGRAPHY
CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND

JAN 15 1980



K-393

Elerslie Farm Outbuilding

View to East

Chestertown

Kent County

M.L. Fritz

3/1980

J. Tyler Campbell
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CHESTERTOWN, MARYLAND
JAN 15 1980